



STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Memorandum

To: Rick Thompson
Executive Secretary

From: Hemanth Digumarthi *HD*
Staff Attorney

Thru: Kay Baker *KB*
Deputy Executive Secretary

Re: In the Matter of Walter Jeffrey Lewis
Case No. PC2008-0014
Recommendation for Dismissal

Date: March 12, 2008

Pursuant to SEC Rule 189-2-.03(5), I recommend that this matter be administratively dismissed because the evidence does not support finding a violation of the Ethics in Government Act (Act).

Respondent, a State Representative for District 15, accumulated \$325.00 in late fees. During the January 24, 2008, Commission meeting, the Commission granted the staff's request to open an investigation to determine whether Respondent violated any provision of the Act. Upon notifying the Respondent of the pending investigation, Commission staff discovered that Kim Carter, the treasurer for Respondent's campaign committee, contacted Commission staff on behalf of Respondent on November 30, 2007, to dispute a portion of the late fees and to make arrangements to pay the balance of late fees owed. Since Carter did not receive a response from Commission staff regarding the disputed portion of the late fees, Respondent did not satisfy his debt of late fees prior to the Commission's finding of Probable Cause at the January 24, 2008, meeting.

Therefore, based upon the foregoing analysis, it is my recommendation that this case be administratively dismissed pursuant to SEC Rule 189-2-.03(5).